the Sung slowly lost ground. From time to time they were forced to sign agreements with the Khitan, promising them tribute and yielding them territory. The Sung capital, Pien Liang, the present K'aifSng, in Honan, was at least once in danger.

Early in the twelfth century relief seemed at hand. A Tungusic people, called by the Chinese Juchen (also Niichen), first heard of in Manchuria, in the basin of the Sungari, and vassals of the Khitan, overthrew the latter, occupied their territory, including part of China proper, and their chief assumed the imperial title, calling his dynasty Chin, meaning Gold. At first the Sung welcomed the Juchen as allies and sent armies against the Khitan. They were speedily undeceived, however, for the new invaders proceeded to make humiliating demands of them. The Emperor Hui Tsung was a painter of note and a patron of the arts, but not a fit leader for his people in an emergency of this kind. Much of the control of the state and especially of the army centered in the hands of an ambitious eunuch, and eunuchs were ever a baleful influence. The nation was heavily taxed to maintain wars and an expensive and luxurious court. Discontent in the provinces and party struggles at court added to the general weakness.

Hui Tsung, discouraged by his impotence before the Juchen, abdicated in favor of a son (1125) and, on the approach of the Juchen, abandoned the capital and fled southward. The new Emperor bought off the invaders by a huge indemnity and the cession of territory. Soon, however, he violated the treaty, and the Juchen, returning to the attack, captured Pien Liang and, carrying into exile the reigning monarch and Hui Tsung and their families, appointed as Emperor one Chang Pang-

ch'ang[5] a Chinese who had advocated submission to the invaders.

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The Chinese were not yet prepared to submit tamely to the dictates of foreigners and the House of Sung still retained the mandate of Heaven. A son of Hui Tsung, usually known to historians under his posthumous title Kao Tsung, escaped capture by the Juchen and was raised to the throne. This was done partly with the assistance of Chang Pang-ch'ang, who, deserting his Juchen masters, threw his support to the Sung and accepted office